



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 5870

LCO No. 2927

02927_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR CHANGES TO THE EDUCATION
STATUTES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 10-4b of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (b) If, after conducting an inquiry in accordance with subsection (a)
5 of this section, the state board finds that a local or regional board of
6 education has failed or is unable to [provide educational opportunities
7 to meet the requirements of this section, sections 10-4a, 10-14q, 10-15c,
8 10-16, 10-16b and 10-42, subsection (a) of section 10-43, sections 10-47b,
9 10-53, 10-54, 10-66i, 10-71 and 10-76d, subsection (h) of section 10-76f
10 and sections 10-76g, 10-76m, 10-76o, 10-97, 10-203, 10-220, 10-227, 10-
11 261, 10-262j, 10-263, 10-266j, 10-266m, 10-273a, 10-277 and 10-280a]
12 implement the educational interests of the state in accordance with
13 section 10-4a, the state board shall (1) require the local or regional
14 board of education to engage in a remedial process whereby such local
15 or regional board of education shall develop and implement a plan of
16 action through which compliance may be attained, or (2) order the

17 local or regional board of education to take reasonable steps where
18 such local or regional board has failed to comply with subdivision (3)
19 of section 10-4a. Where a local or regional board of education is
20 required to implement a remedial process pursuant to subdivision (1)
21 of this subsection, upon request of such local or regional board, the
22 state board shall make available to such local or regional board
23 materials and advice to assist in such remedial process. If the state
24 board finds that a local governmental body or its agent is responsible
25 for such failure or inability, the state board may order such
26 governmental body or agent to take reasonable steps to comply with
27 the requirements of section 10-4a. The state board may not order an
28 increase in the regular program expenditures, as defined in section 10-
29 262f of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, of such local or
30 regional board of education if such expenditures are in an amount at
31 least equal to the minimum expenditure requirement in accordance
32 with section 10-262j of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes,
33 provided that an increase in expenditures may be ordered in
34 accordance with section 10-76d of the 2008 supplement to the general
35 statutes. If the state board finds that the state is responsible for such
36 failure, the state board shall so notify the Governor and the General
37 Assembly.

38 Sec. 2. Subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section 10-264l of the 2008
39 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
40 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

41 (3) (A) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional
42 educational service center that enrolls less than fifty-five per cent of the
43 school's students from a single town shall receive a per pupil grant in
44 the amount of (i) six thousand two hundred fifty dollars for the fiscal
45 year ending June 30, 2006, (ii) six thousand five hundred dollars for the
46 fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, (iii) seven thousand sixty dollars for
47 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, (iv) seven thousand six hundred
48 twenty dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, (v) eight
49 thousand one hundred eighty dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30,

50 2010, and (vi) eight thousand seven hundred forty-one dollars for the
51 fiscal year ending June 30, 2011.

52 (B) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional
53 educational service center that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the
54 school's students from a single town shall receive a per pupil grant for
55 each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at
56 least fifty-five per cent of the school's students in the amount of (i) six
57 thousand sixteen dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, (ii) six
58 thousand seven hundred thirty dollars for the fiscal year ending June
59 30, 2009, (iii) seven thousand four hundred forty dollars for the fiscal
60 year ending June 30, 2010, and (iv) eight thousand one hundred fifty-
61 eight dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. The per pupil
62 grant for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that
63 enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the school's students shall be three
64 thousand dollars.

65 [(C) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional
66 educational service center that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the
67 school's students from a single town shall receive a per pupil grant in
68 an amount that is at least three thousand dollars for the fiscal year
69 ending June 30, 2006, and for each fiscal year thereafter.]

70 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 10-18 of the 2008 supplement to the
71 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
72 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

73 (a) (1) All high, preparatory, secondary and elementary schools,
74 public or private, whose property is exempt from taxation, shall
75 provide a program of United States history, including instruction in
76 United States government at the local, state and national levels, and in
77 the duties, responsibilities, and rights of United States citizenship. No
78 student shall be graduated from any such school who has not been
79 found to be familiar with said subjects.

80 (2) For purposes of subdivision (1) of this subsection, elementary

81 schools shall include in their third, fourth or fifth grade curriculum a
82 program on democracy in which students engage in a participatory
83 manner in learning about all branches of government.

84 Sec. 4. Subsection (c) of section 10-223e of the 2008 supplement to
85 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
86 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

87 (c) (1) Any school or school district identified as in need of
88 improvement pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and requiring
89 corrective action pursuant to the requirements of the No Child Left
90 Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, shall be designated and listed as a low
91 achieving school or school district and shall be subject to intensified
92 supervision and direction by the State Board of Education.

93 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of this title or any regulation
94 adopted pursuant to said statutes, in carrying out the provisions of
95 subdivision (1) of this subsection, the State Board of Education shall
96 take any of the following actions to improve student performance and
97 remove the school or district from the list of schools or districts
98 designated and listed as a low achieving school or district pursuant to
99 said subdivision (1), and to address other needs of the school or
100 district: (A) Require an operations audit to identify possible
101 programmatic savings and an instructional audit to identify any
102 deficits in curriculum and instruction or in the learning environment of
103 the school or district; (B) require the local or regional board of
104 education for such school or district to use state and federal funds for
105 critical needs, as directed by the State Board of Education; (C) provide
106 incentives to attract highly qualified teachers and principals; (D) direct
107 the transfer and assignment of teachers and principals; (E) require
108 additional training and technical assistance for parents and for
109 teachers, principals, and central office staff members hired by the
110 district; (F) require the local or regional board of education for the
111 school or district to implement model curriculum, including, but not
112 limited to, recommended textbooks, materials and supplies approved

113 by the Department of Education; (G) identify schools for
114 reconstitution, as may be phased-in by the commissioner, as state or
115 local charter schools, schools established pursuant to section 10-74g of
116 the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, or schools based on other
117 models for school improvement, or for management by an entity other
118 than the local or regional board of education for the district in which
119 the school is located; (H) direct the local or regional board of education
120 for the school or district to develop and implement a plan addressing
121 deficits in achievement and in the learning environment as
122 recommended in the instructional audit; (I) assign a technical
123 assistance team to the school or district to guide school or district
124 initiatives and report progress to the Commissioner of Education; (J)
125 establish instructional and learning environment benchmarks for the
126 school or district to meet as it progresses toward removal from the list
127 of low achieving schools or districts; (K) provide funding to any
128 proximate district to a district designated as a low achieving school
129 district so that students in a low achieving district may attend public
130 school in a neighboring district; (L) direct the establishment of learning
131 academies within schools that require continuous monitoring of
132 student performance by teacher groups; (M) develop and oversee
133 administration of a family-school partnership survey of families,
134 teachers and administrators; or [(M)] (N) any combination of the
135 [above] actions described in this subdivision or similar, closely related
136 actions. The provisions of this section shall be carried out in
137 accordance with the provisions of sections 10-153a to 10-153n,
138 inclusive, of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes.

139 (3) The Comptroller shall, pursuant to the provisions of section 10-
140 262i of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, withhold any grant
141 funds that a town is otherwise required to appropriate to a local or
142 regional board of education due to low academic achievement in the
143 school district pursuant to section 10-262h of the 2008 supplement to
144 the general statutes. Said funds shall be transferred to the Department
145 of Education and shall be expended by the department on behalf of the
146 identified school district. Said funds shall be used to implement the

147 provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection and to offset such other
148 local education costs that the Commissioner of Education deems
149 appropriate to achieve school improvements. These funds shall be
150 awarded by the commissioner to the local or regional board of
151 education for such identified school district upon condition that said
152 funds shall be spent in accordance with the directives of the
153 commissioner.

154 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 10-153b of the general statutes is
155 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
156 *1, 2008*):

157 (a) Whenever used in this section or in sections 10-153c to 10-153n,
158 inclusive: (1) The "administrators' unit" means the certified
159 professional employee or employees in a school district not excluded
160 from the purview of sections 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive, employed
161 in positions requiring an intermediate administrator or supervisor
162 certificate, or the equivalent thereof, and whose administrative or
163 supervisory duties, for purposes of determining membership in the
164 administrators' unit, shall equal at least fifty per cent of the assigned
165 time of such employee. Certified professional employees covered by
166 the terms and conditions of a contract in effect prior to October 1, 1983,
167 shall continue to be covered by such contract or any successor contract
168 until such time as the employee is covered by the terms and conditions
169 of a contract negotiated by the exclusive bargaining unit of which the
170 employee is a member for purposes of collective bargaining pursuant
171 to the provisions of this section. (2) The "teachers' unit" means the
172 group of professional employees who hold a certificate, [or] a
173 durational shortage area permit or an international teacher permit,
174 issued by the State Board of Education under the provisions of sections
175 10-144o to 10-149, inclusive, of the 2008 supplement to the general
176 statutes, and are employed by a local or regional board of education in
177 positions requiring such a certificate, [or] durational shortage area
178 permit or international teacher permit and are not included in the
179 administrators' unit or excluded from the purview of sections 10-153a

180 to 10-153n, inclusive. (3) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of
 181 Education. (4) "To post a notice" means to post a copy of the indicated
 182 material on each bulletin board for teachers in every school in the
 183 school district or, if there are no such bulletin boards, to give a copy of
 184 such information to each employee in the unit affected by such notice.
 185 (5) "Budget submission date" means the date on which a school district
 186 is to submit its itemized estimate of the cost of maintenance of public
 187 schools for the next following year to the board of finance in each town
 188 having a board of finance, to the board of selectmen in each town
 189 having no board of finance and, in any city having a board of finance,
 190 to said board, and otherwise to the authority making appropriations
 191 therein. (6) "Days" means calendar days.

192 Sec. 6. (*Effective from passage*) Section 10-4n of the general statutes is
 193 repealed.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	10-4b(b)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	10-264l(c)(3)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	10-18(a)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	10-223e(c)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	10-153b(a)
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section

Statement of Purpose:

To make minor changes to the education statutes to eliminate obsolete or duplicative provisions and to provide for consistency.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]